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Foreign Crops and MARKETS



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WORLD FLAXSEED PRODUCTION (Page 222)

WORLD RICE PRODUCTION (Page 225)

WORLD CHICKEN NUMBERS
AND EGG PRODUCTION (Page 229)

L A T E N E W S (Page 221)

CONTENTS

Page

COTTON

Cotton-Price Quotations on Foreign Markets..... 236

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Brazil Establishes Price Support for Cereals
and Oilseed Crops 230

FATS AND OILS

World Flaxseed Production Compares with Average 222
Argentine Sunflower, Peanut Crops Smallest in
Recent Years 237
Morocco Plans Increased Oilseed Production 238

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

Canadian Trade Will Handle Dried Fruit Imports 235
Argentine Citrus Crop Lower 235
Banana Production in the Philippines 238
Flight May Limit Cuban Tomato Exports 239

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

World Rice Production Again Below Prewar 225
Argentina Reduces Estimate of Wheat Area 237
Canadian Grain Harvest Delayed 237

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

World Chicken Numbers and Egg Production 229
United Kingdom Livestock Numbers Reflect
Weather Losses 233
Swiss 1947 Livestock Numbers Show Little Change 233

TOBACCO

Greece Has Large 1947 Tobacco Crop 234
U. S. Share in Portugal's Tobacco Imports Up .. 234
Weather Reduces Canada's Flue-Cured Crop 235

FOR RELEASE

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L A T E N E W S

The 1946-47 rice crop of India is now estimated at 2,105 million bushels harvested from 81,810,000 acres, according to a cable just received from India. The 1947-48 production and acreage are estimated (preliminary) at 1,980 million bushels and 80,500,000 acres by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. (See summary, Page 225).

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A price of \$2.00 a bushel has recently been agreed upon for the 140 million bushels of wheat Britain will buy from Canada in the crop year 1948-49 on the basis of the four-year contract concluded in the summer of 1946. The price for the 160 million bushels contracted for in each of the crop years 1946-47 and 1947-48 had been fixed at \$1.55 in the contract itself. No price (except a floor of \$1) has yet been fixed for the 140 million bushels to be bought by Britain during the crop year 1949-50. All prices are basis No. 1 Northern in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

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Cotton production in Burma in 1946-47 was estimated at 17,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) compared with 32,000 a year ago. Consumption in 1946-47 was estimated at 12,500 bales and exports at 4,000 bales. The 1947-48 crop was forecast at 21,000 bales with a similar increase expected in exports.

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Stocks of cotton in Cuba on July 31, 1947 were reported at 21,000 bales (of 500 pounds) or 10,000 bales more than the stocks a year ago. Imports during 1946-47 totaled 44,000 bales and consumption 34,000. The United States was the source of at least 65 percent of the 1946-47 imports and all new purchases during the year were made in the United States. The 20,000 bales purchased during that period had all arrived by the end of July and no further orders were pending at that time. Imports from Brazil were heavy in 1946, accounting for 40 percent of the total (calendar year) and 15 to 25 percent of the total for August-July, 1946-47.

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WORLD FLAXSEED PRODUCTION COMPARES WITH AVERAGE

A preliminary forecast for 1947 places world flaxseed production at 131.8 million bushels, 24 percent greater than last year's outturn and the largest since the record of 171.0 million bushels in 1943. There is an increase over 1946 on every continent except Asia where production has gradually declined in recent years, chiefly because of flaxseed acreage decreases in India. North American crops are 73 percent larger than in 1946. A slight decrease in South American production is forecast, on the basis of a reduction in Argentine acreage.

Canada's 1947 flaxseed production of 11.8 million bushels is 84 percent greater than last year's output and has been exceeded only twice in more than three decades. The acreage, although 70 percent above last year, was 4 percent less than the 1.5 million recommended by the Dominion Agricultural Conference.

The Government's appeal for an increase in flaxseed acreage was implemented by an announcement in March that, effective August 1, 1947, the price for No. 1 C.W. seed, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur, would be \$5.00 per bushel, an increase of \$1.75 over the 1946 price. In addition farmers will receive an equalization fee on exports of flaxseed and linseed oil equivalent to the difference between Canada's guaranteed price and the United States market price. This fee became effective September 12, 1947, and is expected to remain in effect while price ceilings are maintained in Canada.

Flaxseed carry-over, in all positions, on August 1, was .8 million bushels, providing a total 1947-48 supply of 12.6 million bushels. As domestic requirements are about 9 million there should be 2 to 3 million bushels available for export. The 1945-46 supply was 8.0 million.

Shipments of flaxseed and linseed oil in terms of seed amounted to 1.0 million bushels during the 1946-47 (August-July) season and 1.3 million in the corresponding period the previous season.

The United States has harvested its third largest flaxseed crop. The latest estimate is 39.5 million bushels compared with 23 million in 1946 and the prewar (1935-39) average of 11.0 million bushels. Although this year's acreage was almost one million short of the 5 million goal, the yield per acre of 9.7 bushels was sufficiently high to produce approximately the quantity of flaxseed planned by the Goals Committee.

This country's average (1935-39) annual linseed oil consumption was 519 million pounds. It reached 681 million in the calendar year 1946, but will probably be less in the current year as domestic supplies from the 1946 crop were much smaller and imports in terms of oil were only 107 million during January-July of this year.

Mexican flaxseed production for 1947, is estimated at 787,000 bushels. This is a record output compared with revised estimates for earlier years

(Continued on Page 240; table follows)

FLAXSEED: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified areas, year of harvest, average 1935-39, annual 1944-47 a/

Continent and country	Harvested acreage				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average : 1935-39	1944 : acres	1945 : acres	1946 : acres	1947 : acres	Average : 1935-39	1947 : Bushels	Average : 1935-39	1944 : bushels	1945 : bushels	1946 : bushels	1947 : bushels
North America:												
Canada.....	307	1,323	1,059	840	1,438	4.9	8.2	1,508	9,668	7,593	6,384	11,750
Mexico.....	16	56	---	---	---	6.9	---	111	555	669	669	787
United States.....	1,451	2,610	3,785	2,430	4,063	7.6	9.7	10,991	21,665	34,557	22,962	39,521
Total North America b/.....	1,800	4,000	5,000	3,400	5,650	---	---	12,700	31,900	43,000	30,100	52,100
Europe:												
Austria c/.....	5	14	7	5	---	7.2	---	36	144	40	40	---
Belgium c/.....	75	26	60	78	69	8.9	7.3	664	183	548	617	504
Bulgaria c/.....	8	29	13	4	9	6.5	---	52	160	75	13	---
Czechoslovakia c/.....	35	---	---	---	---	6.9	---	243	---	---	---	---
Finland c/.....	9	23	25	---	---	---	---	---	---	113	---	---
France c/.....	92	104	93	81	88	5.0	4.5	464	512	433	394	400
Germany c/.....	65	110	---	---	---	10.7	---	696	1,176	---	---	---
Hungary.....	19	---	5	7	16	14.9	8.0	283	---	43	40	128
Italy.....	16	54	32	32	33	12.6	5.5	202	320	172	248	182
Netherlands c/.....	42	29	23	31	32	13.0	5.0	546	300	245	314	160
Poland c/.....	158	---	---	55	100	10.0	4.0	1,578	---	---	225	400
Rumania c/.....	42	---	---	---	---	6.5	---	275	---	---	---	---
Sweden.....	---	30	38	22	38	---	18.7	---	548	764	360	709
United Kingdom.....	2	14	10	11	38	---	10.0	---	280	240	100	380
Yugoslavia c/.....	33	---	---	---	---	1.6	---	52	---	---	---	---
Total Europe (excluding U.S.S.R.) b/.....	650	800	650	600	700	---	---	5,200	6,100	4,650	3,550	4,100
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) c/.....	6,434	---	---	2,656	3,353	5.1	4.5	32,115	---	---	11,257	15,250

WORLD RICE PRODUCTION AGAIN BELOW PREWAR

Early season prospects indicate the world rice crop of 1947-48 (August-July) will be about the same as in the preceding year and about 7 percent below prewar production. The harvest is placed at about 6,950 million bushels, compared with 6,900 million in 1946-47 and 7,400 million in the prewar period (1935-36/39-40), in a preliminary estimate by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Despite only a slight gain in total world production over that of the preceding year, the output will be larger in most countries, particularly in Asia and in Europe where output was greatly decreased during the war. Production is below that of a year earlier in India and Pakistan, where the combined acreage is reported to have been reduced below last year. Excluding the output in that region, the harvest of the other countries of the world may be nearly 200 million bushels larger than in 1946-47. Production is larger in most other Asiatic countries, and in Europe, North America and Africa. For the South American countries it is too early to do more than approximate the 1947-48 rice acreage and assume average yields per acre.

The acreage of Asia's rice crops being harvested and yet to be harvested is increased in China, Japan, Burma, Siam, Korea and the Philippine Islands. That of British Malaya is also expected to be larger. Weather in most of these countries has been quite favorable for production.

In the prewar surplus countries of Burma, Siam, and French Indo-China, total production may be nearly 100 million bushels more than in the year before. The largest gain is in Burma, where the acreage goal was 9,000,000 acres, compared with the harvested acreage of 7,734,000 acres in 1946-47. Early in the season the goal was reported as easily attainable, but some acreage was destroyed by heavy floods in August.

Maximum recovery in Siam's rice production was prevented by drought during transplanting. Despite this setback, acreage is believed to be larger, and production more, than in the preceding year. Because of unsettled political conditions, a further decline is expected in the output of French Indochina.

Production in China is estimated at 2,360 million bushels, a slight gain over the final estimate of 2,320 million the preceding year. The acreage was larger than in 1946, and, with the exception of damage by floods in some districts, good yields per acre are being harvested. Although this year's crop is slightly larger than in 1946, production is about 250 million bushels less than during 1935-39, a period of exceptionally good harvests.

In India and Pakistan, little information is available in regard to the rice crop to be harvested principally in December. The 1947-48 production is reported to be less than in the preceding year. It is known that in Bengal, more than 1,000,000 acres of last year's rice area was planted to jute (See Late News, page 221, for figure revision received by cable since preparation of this summary.).

The acreage in Japan was larger than in 1946, and fairly good conditions prevailed during the early part of the season. Production equal to the very good crop of the year before had been forecast, but damage caused by recent floods resulted in a slight downward revision in the crop estimate. The acreage of South Korea also was increased, and conditions have been favorable for production. The crop being harvested is substantially larger than last year's.

In the Malayan Union, about 100,000 additional acres are planned for rice production during the 1947-48 season. Despite a gain in acreage of nearly 20 percent over the prewar area, production is not expected to approach the former level. This is because most of the new acreage will be in unirrigated areas, where the yield per acre is less than in irrigated sections. Floods in Ceylon caused a moderate reduction in the rice crop of that country.

The rice acreage in the Philippine Islands is the largest of any since liberation. An early estimate of the acreage places it at about equal to prewar, and a pre-harvest forecast of the crop was favorable.

The production of North America is estimated at 99,000,000 bushels compared with 93,000,000 in the preceding year, and with 63,000,000 during the prewar average. The United States is harvesting another record crop from the largest acreage yet planted. The area sown to rice is 600,000 acres more than the prewar (1935-39) average, and 25,000,000 bushels more are being harvested, according to the September 1 crop report.

The rice acreage of Mexico also increased over the previous record of last year, and a bumper crop is forecast in that country. Cuba's acreage was reduced slightly owing to rainy weather which prevented planting of the intended acreage. Good weather has helped the crop so far, however, and production is expected to be larger than that of a year ago.

Europe's harvest is forecast at 47,000,000 bushels compared with 40,000,000 the preceding year, and 53,000,000 before the war. The total acreage planted in European countries, however, is larger than before the war. Despite this, rice production may be hardly 90 percent of the prewar average because of lack of fertilizers. The acreage increase is in Spain and Portugal, where the combined acreage is 30,000 acres more than the prewar area. As the result of smaller yields per acre caused by fertilizer shortages, the production in these countries is only slightly larger than during the prewar period.

Although the Italian acreage is estimated to have increased about 10 percent over that of a year earlier, it was 30,000 acres less than the prewar area planted to rice. Conditions have been favorable for a good crop, and a large harvest is now in progress.

In Africa, large crops are forecast for Egypt and Madagascar, the principal exporting countries. A record acreage was planted in Egypt, weather has been favorable, and a bumper crop is expected to be harvested. Acreage

(Continued on page 240; table follows)

ROUGH RICE: World acreage, yield per acre, and production, averages 1930-31 to 1939-40, annual 1945-46 to 1947-48 a/

Continent and country	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average			Average			Average		
	1930-31 to 1934-35	1935-36 to 1939-40	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	
	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	bushels	bushels	bushels	
North America:									
El Salvador.....	22	25	34	27.7	-	530	693	-	
Mexico.....	84	95	166	42.2	173	3,478	4,007	7,200	
Republic of Panama.....	35	50	101	32.0	-	960	1,600	-	
United States.....	883	1,004	1,494	49.7	1,623	41,572	49,852	76,047	
Caribbean:									
Cuba.....	36	45	75	21.4	70	935	965	2,110	
Dominican Republic.....	45	80	134	36.3	-	1,517	2,905	-	
Trinidad.....	7	10	22	30.0	-	180	300	-	
Total.....	1,190	1,410	2,220	-	2,370	51,100	62,900	99,000	
Europe:									
Bulgaria.....	18	19	22	54.8	-	791	1,041	-	
Italy.....	360	362	245	103.9	-	34,139	37,620	-	
Portugal.....	39	50	55	68.0	-	1,740	3,398	29,000	
Spain.....	117	110	119	124.4	-	14,558	10,600	3,800	
Total (excluding U.S.S.R.).....	540	560	480	-	580	51,500	53,100	12,000	
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....									
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	328	384	-	42.3	-	10,785	16,225	-	
Asia:									
Iran.....	560	534	-	37.1	-	22,413	18,577	22,200	
Iraq.....	316	386	479	27.3	-	17,750	11,176	11,760	
Turkey.....	66	78	45	61.2	-	3,329	4,774	2,260	
British Malaya.....	740	746	790	36.3	890	25,333	27,099	25,000	
Burma.....	12,770	12,671	6,983	27.5	8,400	358,219	348,534	134,455	
China.....	47,099	48,161	46,000	52.5	45,927	2,345,574	2,623,383	2,159,964	
Formosa.....	1,609	1,616	-	53.0	1,450	75,340	85,704	70,000	
Manchuria.....	472	782	940	40.6	1,400	14,923	31,783	15,000	
French India.....	47	47	44	25.0	-	1,281	1,173	-	
French Indochina.....	13,505	14,020	9,800	22.5	8,900	281,497	316,038	220,000	
India f.....	70,288	72,707	79,885	26.2	81,000	1,995,645	1,904,819	1,961,877	
Japan.....	7,887	7,862	7,800	75.8	7,830	557,217	595,845	457,007	
Korea.....	4,112	3,838	2,584	51.0	2,711	197,500	195,763	117,321	
Netherlands Indies b.....	9,140	9,716	7,770	31.6	8,640	276,935	306,930	200,000	
Philippine Islands.....	4,643	4,918	4,346	22.2	4,900	103,939	109,385	87,466	
Siam.....	7,111	7,088	4,890	30.1	5,000	231,402	213,079	120,000	
Total (excluding U.S.S.R.).....	150,720	196,500	186,000	-	189,600	632,300	711,700	642,500	
Total (excluding U.S.S.R.).....	150,720	196,500	186,000	-	189,600	632,300	711,700	642,500	

South America:												
Argentina.....	25	52	122	117	1/	59.8	69.4	1,054	3,112	7,736	8,123	1/
Brazil.....	2,074	2,323	4,154	4,120	1/	28.6	30.3	58,970	66,424	135,799	125,000	1/
British Guiana.....	78	70	95	101	1/	50.8	53.0	3,445	3,559	5,028	5,349	1/
Chile.....	b/	13	119	80	1/	99.9	54.6	18	1,299	5,778	4,564	1/
Colombia.....	d/	-	-	-	1/	-	-	d/2,508	3,378	6,030	5,900	1/
Ecuador.....	-	-	-	-	1/	-	-	2,212	3,439	7,691	7,100	1/
Paraguay.....	d/	4	-	15	1/	46.0	50.3	d/ 175	d/ 460	603	754	1/
Peru.....	126	107	148	124	1/	42.8	45.6	4,551	4,578	8,291	5,653	1/
Surinam.....	d/	29	35	40	1/	46.0	63.7	1,078	1,703	1,724	2,547	1/
Uruguay.....	3	13	21	25	1/	66.0	72.4	201	866	1,423	1,811	1/
Total.....	2,570	2,940	5,290	5,200	5,180	-	-	74,800	89,500	181,800	163,500	160,000
Africa:												
Belgian Congo.....	-	d/	220	-	-	d/ 11.2	-	-	d/ 2,475	4,605	-	-
Egypt.....	352	463	654	656	700	71.6	70.1	20,876	33,155	42,453	45,971	46,040
French West Africa.....	1,065	d/	2,459	-	-	d/ 13.4	-	18,087	d/20,936	29,051	-	-
Madagascar.....	1,354	1,195	1,430	1,430	1,480	28.3	24.0	34,166	33,823	37,722	34,293	36,350
Sierra Leone.....	307	340	-	-	-	26.8	-	9,015	9,100	9,308	-	-
Total.....	3,560	4,190	6,090	6,160	6,260	-	-	88,900	106,090	134,600	136,700	139,000
Oceania:												
Australia.....	21	23	28	32	30	92.0	86.0	1,629	2,117	2,553	2,753	g/
Fiji Islands.....	10	10	24	-	-	-	-	480	431	1,060	-	-
Total.....	40	40	80	90	90	-	-	2,200	2,700	4,700	4,900	4,900
Total World.....	198,900	206,000	200,500	204,400	204,700	-	-	7082,000	7446,000	6418,000	6876,000	-

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign Governments, reports of United States foreign-service officers, results of office research, and other information.

g/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year.

b/ Preliminary.

c/ Average 1930-31 to 1934-35.

d/ Less than 5-year average.

e/ Planted acreage.

f/ Includes acreage and production in areas regularly reported only comprising about 92 percent of the total rice area of India.

g/ South Korea only.

h/ Java and Madura only.

i/ Acreage not yet planted.

WORLD CHICKEN NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION

Many adjustments in chicken numbers in countries throughout the world occurred during and following World War II. Producers in Europe reduced flock numbers in keeping with restricted grain supplies. For surplus grain producing countries, namely, the United States, Canada, Argentina, and Australia, wartime disruption of shipments left large supplies of grain to be utilized. As a result of relatively cheap feed supplies in these countries, producers enlarged their poultry enterprises and stepped up production of poultry and eggs during wartime in response to demand. In the United States and Argentina chicken numbers since the end of the war have dropped appreciably below wartime peaks.

In Europe, chicken numbers dropped sharply in several countries in the first year after the outbreak of World War II. In subsequent years chicken numbers gradually declined as grain supplies became more restricted. For the continent as a whole, chicken numbers fell to the lowest level in 1945. Since that time, some progress has been made in restocking flocks. Governments, aided by international agencies, have supplied chicks and hatching eggs. The rebuilding of poultry flocks in Europe has been slow because grain supplies have been inadequate for both human consumption and prewar level of feeding to animals. Poor harvests in western Europe have been especially detrimental in holding back the restocking of flocks.

Poultry diseases have, in recent year, been a contributing factor to the decline of poultry numbers in some countries and to the slow rebuilding of flocks in other countries. As methods of combatting the most serious diseases are developed, and as improvement is made in breeding, feeding, and management, productivity of the world chicken flocks is expected to increase.

The data on chicken numbers on farms in reporting countries are furnished by a table accompanying this summary. Where data permitted, estimates are shown for prewar as well as for 1946-47, to bring out the wartime effect on poultry production. However, changes in boundaries and in dates of enumeration make accurate comparison difficult in several countries. It is also believed that reports in some of the war-torn countries for post-war years are somewhat below the actual number on farms due to the hesitancy of farmers to report their actual livestock numbers.

Egg Production By Countries, 1947 With Comparisons

Egg production in 1947 was somewhat higher than in 1946 in nearly all countries for which preliminary estimates are available. This increase over last year has been moderate, but the gain in production in European countries over the low levels of 1945 has been appreciable. The critical grain supply situation for the next year, however, is expected to prevent further increase in production. Output in 1948 may actually decline from 1947 levels.

The United States, Argentina, Eire and Cuba are the only countries for which production in 1947 is below the 1946 output. Some downward adjustment in production to domestic requirements has occurred in the United States.

(Text continued on Page 242; tables follow)

CHICKENS: Number in specified countries,
average 1934-38, annual 1945-47

Continent and Country	Date	1/ Applicable	Average 1934-38	1945	1946	1947
			Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
North America						
Canada	: 1/ Dec. 1	:	44,077	: 61,918	: 51,697	: 54,702
Guatemala	:	: 2/	664	:	:	:
Mexico	: March	: 3/	36,368	:	:	:
Panama	:	: 2/	195	: 1,372	:	:
United States	: Jan. 1	:	408,177	: 516,497	: 530,203	: 475,442
Cuba	:	:	:	:	: 10,500	: 9,000
Dominican Republic	:	: 4/	2,358	:	:	:
Europe						
Albania	:	:	2,060	: 1,037	: 1,800	:
Austria	: 1/ Dec. 3	: 2/	8,862	: 5,954	: 3,936	: 4,068
Belgium	: 1/ Dec. 31	: 2/	26,885	: 4,444	: 11,111	: 13,333
Bulgaria	: 1/ Dec. 31	: 4/	11,814	:	:	:
Czechoslovakia	: May 27	: 2/	31,875	: 5/ 15,000	:	:
Denmark	: July	: 2/	27,643	: 16,372	: 18,388	: 19,271
Eire	: June	:	15,961	: 15,193	: 15,263	: 14,100
Finland	6/ : Sept. 1	:	2,853	:	: 1,171	:
France	: 1/ Fall	: 7/	145,000	:	: 90,000	:
Germany	: 1/ Dec.	:	86,624	: 8/ 31,189	: 8/ 39,018	:
Greece	9/ : 1/ Nov. 30	:	11,679	: 8,829	: 8,200	: 7,500
Hungary	: Feb. 28	: 4/	17,880	: 10/ 4,916	: 10/ 16,000	:
Italy	:	:	76,000	:	: 60,000	: 65,000
Luxembourg	: 1/ Dec. 1	: 2/	515	: 224	: 280	:
Netherlands	: June	:	29,632	:	: 10,915	:
Norway	: April 15	:	3,486	:	: 1,650	: 2,200
Poland	: July	:	50,000	:	: 20,000	: 40,000
Portugal	: 1/ Dec. 31	: 11/	5,716	:	:	:
Rumania	:	: 2/	31,853	: 12/ 11,230	: 12/ 10,939	:
Spain	: July 1	: 13/	28,972	: 14/ 24,958	: 14/ 22,468	:
Sweden	: Sept. 16	: 15/	10,980	: 16/ 11,700	: 14/ 13,600	:
Switzerland	9/ : April	: 1/	5,544	: 4,492	: 5,043	: 5,025
United Kingdom -	:	:	:	:	:	:
Farm	: June	:	73,402	: 55,755	: 60,576	: 64,837
Total	: June	:	:	: 70,706	: 76,393	: 81,526
Yugoslavia	: 1/ Dec. 31	:	18,021	:	:	:
Asia						
Lebanon	: 1/ Dec.	:	:	: 1,350	: 1,400	: 1,450
Palestine	:	: 2/	1,914	: 3,951	:	:
Syria	:	: 2/	1,525	: 2,171	: 2,029	:
Turkey	:	:	16,794	: 17,843	:	:
China	:	:	:	:	: 184,984	:
Japan	: July	:	51,094	: 17,204	: 19,000	:
Philippine Islands	:	:	41,524	:	:	:

Continued -

CHICKENS: Number in specified countries, (Continued)
average 1934-38, annual 1945-47

Continent and Country	Date 1/ Applicable	Average 1934-38	1945	1946	1947
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
South America:					
Argentina	June	15/ 42,988			
Brazil		7/ 59,000			
Chile 17/	June	2/ 1,026	1,675		
Uruguay		15/ 4,814			
Africa					
Egypt	July	11/ 26,889			
French Morocco		2/ 50,000			
Union of South Africa	Aug.	15/ 14,000		18,600	
Oceania					
Australia	1/ Dec. 31	15,541	18/ 16,117	15,000	
New Zealand	March	11/ 3,489	10/ 4,071		

1/ End of year estimates (October to December) included under the following year for comparisons. Thus for Canada the December 1, 1944 estimate of 61,918 is shown under 1945. 2/ Average for 2 to 4 years only. 3/ 1940. 4/ 1935. 5/ Does not include Ruthenia. 6/ Adult chickens. 7/ 1938. 8/ Four zones only. In December 1937, there were 69,582,000 chickens in the territory presently covered by the 4 zones. 9/ All poultry. 10/ September. 11/ 1936. 12/ 58 counties instead of 71. 13/ 1939. 14/ April. 15/ 1937. 16/ June. 17/ Commercial farms with more than 100 laying hens. 18/ March.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reported of United States foreign service officers, results of office research, and other information. Data relate to prewar boundaries, unless otherwise noted.

Egg Production in specified countries,
average 1934-38, annual 1945-47:

Continent and Country	Average 1934-38	1945	1946	1947
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
North America				
Canada	2,638	4,487	4,162	4,680
United States	35,498	55,858	61,176	59,400
Cuba	320	324	300	276

Continued -

EGG PRODUCTION: Number in specified countries,
average 1934-38, annual 1945-47 (continued)

Continent and Country	Average 1934-38	1945	1946	1947
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
<u>Europe</u>				
Albania	143:	-	-	-
Austria	663:	336	220	240
Belgium	1,693:	400	1,100	1,380
Bulgaria	682:	273	-	-
Czechoslovakia	1,958:	596	775	1,025
Denmark	1,979:	858	883	1,000
Eire	1,086:	756	781	661
Finland	317:	-	93	117
France	6,200:	-	6,280	6,280
Germany	6,585:	-	-	-
Greece	550:	332	352	-
Hungary	1,050:	66	110	-
Italy	5,600:	2,400	4,000	4,600
Luxembourg	55:	21	-	-
Netherlands	1,978:	200	500	700
Norway	369:	86	155	246
Poland	3,500:	-	2,276	-
Portugal	150:	-	-	-
Rumania	1,500:	-	1/ 532	-
Spain	1,700:	-	-	-
Sweden	900:	970	1,020	1,070
Switzerland	423:	250	300	320
United Kingdom - (Farm	3,871:	2,090	2,418	2,505
(Total	2/ 5,098:	3,409	3,850	3,964
Yugoslavia	1,000:	-	-	-
<u>Asia</u>				
Lebanon	-	65	65	-
Palestine	108:	150	200	-
Syria	92:	99	120	-
Turkey	1,003:	851	-	-
Japan	3,553:	864	936	-
<u>South America</u>				
Argentina	1,127:	-	-	-
Chile	22:	47	-	-
Uruguay	289:	-	-	-
<u>Africa</u>				
Egypt	751:	-	-	-
French Morocco	1,000:	-	-	-
Union of South Africa	3/	480	-	-
<u>Oceania</u>				
Australia	4/ 708:	1,358	1,468	1,620
New Zealand	430:	-	-	-

1/ 58 countries. 2/ Year ending in May of year indicated. 3/ Not available.

4/ Commercial production.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers, results of office research, and other information. Estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to prewar boundaries except as noted.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

UNITED KINGDOM LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
REFLECT WEATHER LOSSES

The census returns for livestock numbers in the United Kingdom on June 1, 1947 reflect the losses in livestock caused by floods and severe snow storms of the past winter. While some declines are shown in cattle and hog numbers, sheep numbers are down sharply, reflecting the heavy storm losses.

UNITED KINGDOM: Livestock and poultry numbers on farms,
June 1, 1947, with comparisons

Classification	: Average : : 1936-40 :	Average : : 1941-45 :	: 1945 :	: 1946 :	: 1947 a/ :
	:Thousands:	:Thousands:	:Thousands:	:Thousands:	:Thousands:
Cattle, total	: 8,798:	9,278:	9,616:	9,629:	9,571
Milk cows and heifers	: 3,864:	4,246:	4,343:	4,423:	4,380
Hogs, total	: 4,380:	2,110:	2,152:	1,955:	1,628
Sows for breeding	: 528:	236:	246:	221:	197
Sheep, total	: 26,112:	20,881:	20,150:	20,358:	16,873
Ewes for breeding	: 11,179:	8,523:	8,211:	8,294:	7,210
Chickens	: 69,939:	52,973:	56,666:	61,723:	64,837
Ducks	: 2,960:	2,788:	3,335:	3,281:	3,052
Geese	: 732:	843:	990:	940:	888
Turkeys	: 1,230:	966:	1,124:	1,172:	1,153
a/ Preliminary					

Official sources.

SWISS 1947 LIVESTOCK NUMBERS
SHOW LITTLE CHANGE

Livestock numbers in Switzerland in April 1947 showed little change from a year earlier. Since April, however, a severe drought has been experienced in Switzerland and some liquidation is expected in livestock numbers during the fall and winter.

(Table on following page)

SWITZERLAND: Livestock numbers, April 1947,
with comparisons

	: Average :	Average :	:	:	:
	: 1936-40 :	1941-45 :	1945 :	1946 :	1947 :
	:Thousands:	Thousands:	Thousands:	Thousands:	Thousands:
Cattle, total	: 1,663 :	1,510 :	1,461 :	1,472 :	1,451 :
Cows	: 905 :	827 :	805 :	815 :	822 :
Hogs, total	: 915 :	672 :	698 :	654 :	710 :
Sows	: 75 :	56 :	62 :	59 :	61 :
Sheep	: a/ 177 :	200 :	193 :	195 :	182 :
Goats	: b/ 220 :	213 :	205 :	206 :	189 :
Horses	: b/ 140 :	146 :	149 :	152 :	147 :
a/ Average for 4 years only.	b/ 1936.				

Official sources.

TOBACCO

GREECE HAS LARGE
1947 TOBACCO CROP

The Greek Autonomous Tobacco Organization places the country's 1947 tobacco harvest at about 99 million pounds, or 76 percent greater than the revised estimate of 56 million pounds for the 1946 crop. This large production in 1947, if realized, will complicate an already unfavorable situation in the Greek tobacco industry. Reports indicate that the quality of this year's crop, however, ranges from good to excellent. Stocks of leaf held in Greece on July 1, 1947, totaled about 71 million pounds. With the large 1947 crop ready for market during 1948, the export outlook is decidedly not encouraging to the country's tobacco farmers.

Greece's exports of leaf during the first six months of 1947 totaled 21.8 million pounds. The United Kingdom with takings of 9.4 million pounds was the principal outlet, followed by the United States, with 5 million pounds. European countries, such as Czechoslovakia, Finland, Austria, and Italy purchased most of the remainder.

Consumption of tobacco in Greece utilizes but a small portion of total leaf production. In 1946, the country consumed about 15.4 million pounds of tobacco. For the first half of this year, about 9.8 million pounds were used in the manufacture of tobacco products.

U. S. SHARE IN PORTUGAL'S
TOBACCO IMPORTS UP

In 1946, Portugal imported a total of 9.8 million pounds of leaf tobacco. The United States supplied 8 million pounds or 82 percent of the total, and Angola, a Portuguese possession in Africa, furnished 1.2 million pounds. Portugal's imports of leaf during the five years 1941-45 averaged 8.6 million pounds annually, of which the United States'

share was 72 percent. The reported import figures reveal that the United States has been supplying leaf to Portugal in increasing quantities since 1940. Imports of tobacco manufactures last year were 314,000 pounds. Of this total, 209,000 pounds consisted of United States cigarettes.

Consumption of cigarettes in Portugal has risen steadily since 1940. In 1946, an estimated total of 4.4 million pounds were consumed, compared with only 2.6 million pounds in 1940. Consumption of other products -- cigars, cut tobacco and snuff -- has shown only small increases. Last year, total consumption of all products amounted to 9.6 million pounds, compared with 6.5 million pounds in 1940. The sharp increase in cigarettes -- 69 percent over the 1940 figure -- augurs well for continued large imports of United States cigarette leaf.

WEATHER REDUCES CANADA'S FLUE-CURED CROP

Hail and frost in early September caused extensive damage to the flue-cured crop in the Province of Ontario. In addition, crop figures were revised downward because of overestimated acreage and yields. Unofficial estimates now place 1947 production at only 95 million pounds, compared with early-season estimates of about 123 million pounds. In 1946, Canada's flue-cured production amounted to a record 119 million pounds. Most of the country's flue-cured leaf is grown in Ontario. If present indications for a sharply reduced crop materialize, Canada will have only limited quantities of flue-cured leaf available for export in 1948.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

CANADIAN TRADE WILL HANDLE DRIED FRUIT IMPORTS

Importation of raisins and currants into Canada will be through trade channels, according to a recent announcement by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Distribution of import permits to Canadian importers was to begin October 1 and price ceilings, presently in effect, will continue until further notice.

According to the announcement, the policy with respect to dried prunes will be the same as with raisins and currants. Present stocks of prunes are considered to be adequate to meet requirements until December, however, and the trade has been invited to submit requests for permits to import prunes after December 31.

ARGENTINA CITRUS CROP LOWER

The first official estimate of citrus production in Argentina for 1948, places the orange (including tangerines) crop at 9.8 million boxes (70 lbs.). This is about 1 million boxes below the 1947 crop of 10.7 million and about 4 million less than the 5-year (1941-45) average of 13.6 million boxes.

Of this 1948 total, oranges account for 7.2 million boxes as compared with 8.1 million for the past season and with 9.9 million for the five years (1941-45). The grapefruit crop is estimated at 110,000 boxes, 35 percent below last year's crop of 168,000 and 24 percent below the five year (1941-45) average of 144,000 boxes. The lemon crop is estimated at 1,369,000 boxes, 100,000 above last year's crop and 250,000 below the 5-year (1941-45) average of 1,113,000 boxes.

(Continued on page 238)

COTTON

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths
and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date : 1947	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		: Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good.....	9-25	: 99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 39.25:	32.75
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)	
Giza 7, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)	
Giza 7, F.G.F.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)	
Karnak, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 47.00:	39.22
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)	
Bombay		: Candy			
Jarila, Fine.....	"	: 784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 435.00:	16.74
Broach, Fine.....	"	: "	: "	: 540.00:	20.78
Sind American, Fine.....	"	: "	: "	: 548.00:	21.09
Punjab " 239-F, Fine:	"	: "	: "	: 658.00:	25.32
Kampala, East African....	"	: "	: "	: 920.00:	35.41
Buenos Aires		: Metric ton			
Type B.....	9-27	: 2204.6 lbs.	: Peso	: 2590.00:	34.98
Lima		: Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	: 101.4 lbs.	: Sol	: 157.00:	23.82
Pima, Type 1.....	"	: "	: "	: 193.00:	29.28
Recife		: Arroba			
Mata, Type 5.....	9-26	: 33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	: 110.00:	13.10
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 120.00:	19.74
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 155.50:	25.58
Torreón		: Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16".....	"	: 101.4 lbs.	: Peso	: 131.25:	26.63

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDSARGENTINA REDUCES
ESTIMATE OF WHEAT AREA

Argentina's second official estimate of its wheat acreage seeded this season places the area at 13,708,000 acres. This would be the smallest acreage on record, and 17 percent smaller than last year's below-average area. The present low level of seeding contrasts with the average of 18,663,000 acres seeded during 1935-39. The smaller acreage was attributed to unfavorable weather conditions, with dry conditions reported in some areas and excessive moisture in others.

No details are yet available regarding the new figure. However, the breakdown of the first estimate, which was made before late sowing was completed and reported a reduction of 13 percent compared with seedings last year, showed about 55 percent of the reduction in the Province of Buenos Aires, 15 percent in Cordoba and 13 percent in La Pampa. Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Santa Fe together accounted for about 88 percent of the seedings reported.

CANADIAN GRAIN
HARVEST DELAYED

Cold weather, with severe frosts in late September, held up grain harvesting over Canada's Prairie Provinces, according to recent reports. Northern areas of Alberta at that time had completed only about half of the grain harvest. In Saskatchewan, with about 90 percent of the grain cut, but a somewhat smaller percentage threshed, heavy rainfalls interrupted harvest operations and caused some sprouting in cut grain. Harvesting was virtually completed in Manitoba and only a small percentage of grain remained to be threshed. Scattered showers there were said to have delayed completion of these operations.

Unfavorable growing and harvesting weather resulted in a considerable quantity of grain being of low grade this year. The Canadian Wheat Board recently issued an order prohibiting free sales of No. 4 Northern wheat, domestically or for export, on permit. This adds Grade 4 to the allocation plan which previously applied only to grades above No. 4 Northern, and withdraws Grade 4 from use by feeders.

General removal of price ceilings, effective September 15, affected the price of bread, with increases of 2 cents per pound loaf reported in different cities. Removal of subsidies, accompanying decontrol of prices, caused an increase of \$4.05 per barrel in flour prices.

FATS AND OILSARGENTINE SUNFLOWER, PEANUT
CROPS SMALLEST IN RECENT YEARS

Argentine sunflower-seed and peanut crops for 1947 are the smallest since 1943, according to the third official estimates. Only 759,000 short tons of sunflower seed were harvested, representing a decrease of 23 percent from the 1946 output and 34 percent from the record crop of 1944.

Peanut production came to only 118,000 tons, a 23-percent decrease from last year and a 46 percent decrease from 1944, which was also a record year for peanuts. However, the current sunflower-seed harvest is 346 percent larger than the average prewar crop while the present peanut output exceeds the prewar average by 36 percent.

Acreage decreases in peanuts and sunflower seed were the first such declines since 1942 and 1943, respectively. Fear of devastation from grasshopper invasion and producers' dissatisfaction with the Government's buying prices were among the factors influencing plantings. Then the sunflower-seed crop suffered from lodging due to wet weather delay of harvest, shattering, and mold damage.

Argentina exported 30,700 tons of sunflower-seed oil and 3,500 tons of peanut oil during January-May 1947 compared with total 1946 shipments of 63,900 and 13,000 tons, respectively.

ARGENTINA: Sunflower-seed and peanut acreage and production,
1947 with comparisons

Year	Sunflower seed		Peanuts	
	Harvest area:	Production	Harvest area:	Production
	1,000 acres:	1,000 short tons:	1,000 acres:	1,000 short tons:
Average 1935-39	a/ 496	170	a/ 208	87
" 1940-44	682	682	227	115
1945	2,800	1,086	351	174
1946	3,174	981	381	153
1947	b/ 3,882	759	b/ 354	118

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Average of less than 5 years. b/ Third estimate of sown area.

MOROCCO PLANS INCREASED
OILSEED PRODUCTION

French Morocco hopes to increase oilseed production by the use of agricultural equipment, especially tractors, secured from the United States. Under the provisions of the Monnet Plan for agriculture in North Africa, the French Government authorized the Protectorate Government to sell up to 5,500 short tons of olive oil in the United States and to use the dollars so obtained for the purchase of agricultural equipment. The purchasing mission planned to secure the equipment in time for use in the 1947 harvest.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS (Continued from Page 236)

BANANA PRODUCTION IN
THE PHILIPPINES

Bananas, among the most widely grown fruits in the Philippines, are produced in all Provinces, but the greatest concentration is around Manila and other large cities. Production is estimated at about 45 "count bunches" annually, all of which are consumed in the Philippines.

There are about 57 known varieties of bananas in the Philippines. The cooking banana is known locally as saba, and numbers at least 10 different varieties. The fruit is about four inches long, three-angled with fibrous pulp, and is highly acid unless cooked. The saba matures slowly, and is eaten fried, boiled in its skin and baked.

The lacatan, a dessert banana, compares favorably in shipping and keeping qualities with the Gros Michel. The fruit is cylindrical, about six inches long, and yellow with fine pulp and delicate flavor.

The bungulan, another dessert banana, is elongated, with a skin that is green when mature. It is about eight inches long, and has a soft pulp which is white and delicate.

BLIGHT MAY LIMIT CUBAN TOMATO EXPORTS

The success of Cuba's 1947-48 vegetable season, beginning in November, will be determined largely by the control of late blight of tomatoes, the Island's principal vegetable crop, according to report. The acreage of tomatoes, according to present indications, will be somewhat less than last season, but the yield may be larger if blight can be checked. Cuba's tomato production for the coming season may be 2.5 million lugs, of which an estimated 1 million will be exported.

E C O N O M I C D E V E L O P M E N T S

BRAZIL ESTABLISHES PRICE SUPPORT FOR CEREALS AND OILSEED CROPS

Price support for cereals, beans, and oilseed in Brazil through direct purchase and crop loans was made effective on July 7, 1947 through an agreement reached between the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Brazil. Earlier decrees and laws establishing the program had been inoperative for lack of the necessary administrative machinery which is now provided.

Minimum prices are established as follows:

Wheat - Cr\$ 2 per kilogram.

Corn - Cr\$ 60 per bag of 60 kilograms.

Rice - Cr\$ 155 per bag of 60 kilograms.

Beans - Cr\$ 100 to Cr\$ 155 per bag of 60 kilograms.

Peanuts - Cr\$ 60 per bag of 25 kilograms.

Sunflower seed - Cr\$ 2 per kilogram, bagged.

Soybeans - Cr\$ 90 per bag of 60 kilograms.

(The Cruzeiro has a value of about 5 cents in U. S. currency)

Grade and quality specifications are stated in each instance, and a schedule of premiums and discounts established for lots above or below standard grade.

Loans to producers, traders or manufacturers may be made, up to 80 percent of the value, for initial periods of not more than 60 days, subject to limited extension. In case of non-liquidation of loans, the Bank may have recourse to the commodity through paying the additional 20 percent.

A maximum of 200 million cruzeiros (about \$10,000,000 U.S.) is authorized under the present contract. This program adds the commodities mentioned to coffee, cotton, and cacao, which already obtain some form of price protection from the Brazilian Government.

WORLD RICE PRODUCTION-- (Continued from Page 226)

was also increased in Madagascar and production is believed to be slightly larger than in the preceding year.

Most of the 1947-48 rice acreage of South America is not yet planted. The area which will be sown in the exporting countries of Brazil and Ecuador may depend to some degree on the extent to which the 1947 surpluses may be exported at prices profitable to producers. Lack of agreement on prices so far has held up the exportation of surpluses from the crops harvested in these countries from June to August 1947.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C.M. Purves, Fred J. Rossiter, L. Thelma Willahan, W.I. Ladejinsky, and Lois E. Bacon.

WORLD FLAXSEED SUMMARY--(Continued from Page 222)

(1942-46). Current flaxseed and linseed oil exports are expected to be substantially larger than the 300,000 bushels shipped in 1946.

Total European flaxseed production for 1947, forecast at 4.1 million bushels, is 15 percent larger than last season's outturn. The United Kingdom, concentrating on flax for seed, planted 38,000 acres this season and expects to increase the acreage to 150,000 in 1948. The reduced European estimates for prewar and the years following, compared with data published in earlier surveys, are the result of adjustments to present boundaries. This change increased the Soviet Union acreage and production.

While flaxseed production in the Soviet Union, estimated at 15.2 million bushels, is somewhat larger than the 11.3 million harvested in 1946, it is 53 percent smaller than the prewar (1935-39) outturn. The principal reason for the increase over last year was the favorable weather that prevailed during the growing season and brought about a larger yield per acre. Acreage is planted primarily for fiber.

India's 1947 flaxseed production of 14.0 million bushels is much below average for that country. The area sown was the smallest since 1934. One of the reasons for diverting land from flaxseed to other crops is the urgent need for food.

Argentine flaxseed acreage, estimated at 3.4 million acres, is 14 percent less than in 1946. The limited plantings are attributed to: price dissatisfaction, fear of damage from grasshoppers, and the desire of growers to turn to livestock production where labor problems and price interference are less serious or to minor crops for which there are fewer regulations. Despite the reduced acreage, production may equal or exceed the 41 million bushels reported for 1946 if growing conditions continue favorable.

Uruguayan acreage has not been received; however, it is expected to compare favorably with the 412,000 acres harvested in 1946. Chile, the only other South American country producing a significant quantity of flaxseed, has not released an estimate for the current season. In view of the country's need for oilseeds it is assumed that flaxseed plantings will at least equal the 13,000 acres harvested in 1946.

Although African flaxseed production is comparatively insignificant, there is a tendency to expand acreage. Egypt's 1947 production of 134,000 bushels was more than three times the size of last season's output. The increase is due to the abnormally high prices ruling for flaxseed. At planting time the keen competition for seed resulted in prices as high as L.E. 15 to 20 per ardeb (\$13.00 to \$17.00 per bushel). At the end of July the price was approximately L.E. 10 (\$8.60). Had more seed been available at planting time, the flaxseed acreage would have been much larger.

Morocco planted 20,000 acres to flaxseed this year and anticipated a much larger production than in 1946, but hot weather and locust invasion reduced the prospects; the size of the crop has not been announced. Morocco's production averaged 362,000 bushels during 1935-39, increased during the war years then declined to 158,000 bushels from 15,000 acres in 1946.

It is reported that the Moroccan Government has frozen stocks of flaxseed and linseed oil from the 1946 and 1947 crops. This action was taken to establish Government control over all available supplies in view of the world shortage of fats and oils. A ceiling price of 4,500 francs per quintal (\$9.60 per bushel), applicable from July 1, 1947, has been announced.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman; C.M. Purves, Regina H. Boyle, Helen Francis, L. Volin, and Lois E. Becon.

Unfavorable export prices in Argentina in 1945-46 were followed by much lower production in the 1946-47 season. Short feed supplies in Eire have limited egg production.

Egg production in Canada and Australia, which are at present important sources of eggs for the United Kingdom, continued to increase in 1947. Production in 1947 in these two countries is estimated at 177 percent and 229 percent, respectively, of 1934-38 output. The purchase contracts entered into between the United Kingdom and Canada and Australia have developed marketing channels for eggs that appear to have resulted in favorable prices to producers in Canada and Australia.

In many European countries nearly as many eggs as in prewar years have been available for consumption. Egg production increased appreciably and far fewer eggs were exported than in prewar years. Supplies of eggs for domestic consumption, however, were well below prewar in Finland, Norway, Netherlands, Austria, and Germany.

Poor grain harvests in 1947 in western and central Europe, along with inadequate world supplies, are expected to prevent further restoration in 1948.

The above report on chickens was approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It includes a report on world egg production scheduled for publication October 27. The report on hog marketings in specified countries, scheduled for publication October 6, will be published October 27. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, Thelma L. Bryan, Lois B. Bacon, and Theodora T. B. Mills.

